

SPRING SPARKLES.

"When was that, dear?"
"Out West, when it was

bandits" was the gentle response. "If your biography is to be a work of art, do the work yourself. If you should write it he might accidentally find out the truth now and then and spoil the whole thing. A biography is valuable in direct ratio to the amount of truth it contains."

One little girl was heard to say to a male: "When I grow up I'm going to be a school teacher." "Well, I'm a mother," said the female, "and I have six children who come to school to me. I'm a teacher."

Doctor: "You need more friend; that is the whole trouble with you. What is your business?" Patient: "I am a policeman." Doctor: "Then do something else, but I surely don't lose sleep. After all, perhaps take enough exercise."

"We feel," writes a Western, "an apology is due to Widow Gleason of last week we stated she eloped with an 18-year-old man that she was thrown from a mare, which she was riding in which she slipped and fell. Miss Gleason is the best regulated nurse and we are confident that the item was sent over a tale and other apology will be needed."

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

OVER THE OCEAN.

Mr. Gladstone will spend the holiday recess at Hawarden Castle when not engaged in his canvass in Scotland.

The total coal output in Great Britain last year was 159,351,415 tons, with 520,672

The backwardness of the season in Scotland is seriously retarding agricultural operations; and in some districts farm work is as advanced than it has been for a great many years past.

A copy of Dickens' "Strange Gentleman," one of the rarest of his productions, was recently bought by a small bookseller for three

By him it was sold for 15s to a young man in the trade, and in his turn disposing of the book to another person for £1. This last knew the value of his prize, and, in spite of its being imperfect, resold the volume for £5 to a well-known firm of booksellers, who now want somewhere about £12 for it. A perfect copy is worth £20.

In the confederation of Switzerland, with a population of about two millions and a half, or just one half that of London and its suburbs, there are no less than four languages. Out of every thousand of inhabitants about 600 speak German, 227 French

languages represents a separately and sharply defined race, and in addition to this multiplicity of race and language, the Swiss are divided in the matter of religious confession into three groups. In every thousand of the population there are being roughly 600 Protestants to 400 Roman Catholics. Surely it is no small problem

It: administration, that with such diversification of race tongue and religion, there should be a profound common sentiment causing German, French, and Romanisch alike to cherish as the strongest political feeling affection for the fatherland.

has really been suffering from blood poisoning. Her Royal Highness is now convalescent, but it is probable that during the Easter holidays she will either go abroad for short time, or else take a cruise in the Royal yacht, Osborne. The Princess' health cannot yet be pronounced to be entirely satisfactory, as she will require much care.

a considerable time to come. The L Church people at Torquay are by no means pleased that the Princess should have "under" Mr. Hewitt, the vicar of Babbacombe, who is locally known as "Father Hewitt, and is one of the most "advanced" clergymen in the West of England. The Duchess of Sutherland is a regular member.

Baroness Bardett-Coutts (says Life) been carrying out the suggestion of cooking savory dishes for the poor in Westminster and the results are most encouraging. La

carefully cooked and prepared into soups, stews, pies and puddings, and these are sold at a penny a dish to the poor, who gladly avail themselves of the opportunity of securing a good meal at such a price. The girls at the Guards' Industrial Home have been called to assist in this good work.

own kitchen, but the business has so large increased that suitable premises have been secured where the work is done. Lady Walsley started a Mayfair scrap cart, and organized her plan so systematically that large quantities of really dainty morsels are collected and sent to Westminster.

Switzerland, since the time of the mans, Bellinzona has been a very important military post, for it is the southern key to the Gotthard Pass, and commands the

valley of the Ticino. In old times the
quarling cantons of Uri, Schwyz and Unter-
walden sent in turn a Landvogt or governor
to rule in Bellinzona over the province, and
each canton built itself a mighty castle. The
three remain, and their ancient towers
hoary battlemented walls, built as they
were, commanding eminences, give the

Some thirty years ago, too, the Swiss federation, profoundly impressed with the necessity of making good the Gotthard against all comers, dug a line of fortifications right across the valley just below town. To a layman, this picturesque line of fortified ramparts looks very formidable.

and as if no man or mouse could over such a wall much less an army; but military critics assert that so rapid has been the advance in the art of war, that as a word of defence it is now absolutely valueless.

companion geese, but to try a new life for itself. So it boldly marched into barracks of a Uhlan regiment one day, stationed itself next the sentry box. Uhlans were touched by the geese chosen to ally itself with their corps, and busied for it to live in. For twenty

able to separate this bird from its ad-
regiment. When the corps changed
ters the geese went with them, and
the Uhlans went to fight for their co-
the desolate creature took up for a
with a battalion of infantry; but no
did the first Uhlans enter the town the

When Franklin bottled the lights, he was considered an Ajax; the pupil thus set against his daring impetuosity. It was

of the ancient curse on the first man's
ground, the first builders of towers, the
bearer of fire and the arts to men. In-
theless, one of Jove's bolts was bot-
tled and, from that time, it has been studie
analyzed, until science has learned to
store up lightning and regulate its as-
saults. Some years ago a Frenchman cross-

English channel brought the storm in a Gladsstone bag. He sent to Sir William Thompson, at Glasgow many little metal boxes, called Light Dr. Buchanan came in one day to buy one of these boxes, saying that he wanted to use it on a patient,—a little child had a tumor on its tongue, which he was

t to cut off or to burn off one end of the heated wire sometimes loses its heat, it can be reheated, causing much pain. The heated electricity was taken to the child's head where the wire was kept at one heat. In one case the lightning touched off the teeth painfully, soft as a mother's kiss; another child is well.

Ghastly Discovery.
The other day a ghastly discovery was made about five miles below Clark Tenn., by two boys. A hoghead, which had been left in a field by the late owner, was found.

bodies of a man and a woman, supposed to be negroes. The arms of the male separated from the body, while both had apparently been sawed in two. The skulls of both were missing. The police believe that the bodies are subjects of the medical college at Nashville.

A Scotch dominie, after relating to scholars the story of Ananias and Sapphira, asked them "why God did not strike the body dead who told a lie." After a silence, one little fellow got to his feet and exclaimed: "Because, sir, there was no room."
